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Cc: [Crossland, Ronnie](#); [Smith, Monica](#)
Subject: Draft ITC update info you requested -- 03/31/2019
Date: Sunday, March 31, 2019 6:10:00 AM

**Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire Morning Update
Deer Park, Texas
March 31, 2019**

- EPA continues to participate in Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services, and ITC.
- Harris County Pollution Control provided an update of information regarding facilities east and south of ITC whom enacted a shelter-in-place on March 30 due to elevated benzene readings:
 - Oxy Vinyls Battleground – enacted at 2:30 PM / lifted at 2:55 PM
 - Oxy Vinyls LaPorte VCM – enacted at 2:28 PM / lifted at 3:08 PM
 - LyondellBasell (1515 Miller Cut Off Road)– enacted at 2:28 PM / lifted later in night
 - INEOS (1230 Independence Parkway) – enacted 3:31 PM / lifted later in night
 - Geo Specialty Chemicals – enacted at 3:31 PM / lifted later in night
 - Nouryon Polymer Chemicals Battleground – 4:49 PM / lifted later in night
 - Braschem (8811 Strang Road)– enacted at 5:08 PM / lifted later in night
- ITC held stakeholders call with industrial partners at 2:00 am on March 31. Most reported lowered benzene readings – either below .5 action or right above.
- At approximately 11:30 pm on March 30, Braskem reported elevated benzene detections, and that an individual was vomiting transported to a hospital for observation. He was released after observation and testing. 5 other individuals were under observation at the facility and released.
- Independence Parkway north of Highway 225 was closed to public traffic for part of March 31 due to elevated benzene readings.
- ITC requested TCEQ finish their review/comments of the Documentation plan; TCEQ will work the issue on March 31.
- On March 30, USCG and ITC were working financial / operational issues with the Texas Responder ship.
- The Executive Director of the TCEQ (Toby Baker), as well as the Commander of the USCG 8th District (Paul Thomas) will be visiting the site on Monday, April 1. EPA notified the Joint Information Center of the visit.
- Pumping of Tank 11 continued throughout March 30. It is expected to be emptied by March 31 or April 1.
- Foaming of the secondary containment to prevent reignition and reduce emissions continues as necessary.
- Several entities including Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), EPA, and ITC continue to conduct air monitoring around the tank farm, in adjoining industrial areas, and communities downwind from the facility.
- A Strike Team, comprised of EPA, TCEQ, and CTEH were sent to the areas around the Deer Park area (south of the site) due to elevated readings of benzene during the afternoon and night. Unified Command and Harris County were kept apprised of the readings.
- ITC continued air monitoring on March 30 (midnight to midnight); there were 3,276 VOC readings (684 detections) with and 2,634 benzene readings (568 detections).
- EPA continued mobile air monitoring on March 30 (24 hour) at 51 locations. There were 11 detections, with 3 detections above the action level noted.
- ASPECT did not fly on March 30 due to low cloud cover. ASPECT will evaluate the weather conditions for a potential flight on March 30 at 07:00 am, however the forecast is not promising.
- EPA conducted air sampling using the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) on March 30, 2019. The TAGA analyzed the air samples for benzene, toluene and xylene. TAGA monitored down wind of the site.
- EPA conducted surface water sampling on March 30 at ten sample locations, including a duplicate sample. Samples were collected from upstream the confluence of Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River in the Old River (at River Terrace Park, Channelview, Texas), confluence of Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River (at the shoreline of Juan Sequin Historic Park), in the main channel of the San Jacinto River just upstream the confluence with Buffalo Bayou, and downstream in the San Jacinto River. The surface water samples will be analyzed for PFAS, VOCs, SVOCs, COD, and Oil & Grease.
- TCEQ continued handheld air monitoring on March 30; from 12:00 am to 10:00 approximately 165 readings were taken. No readings above the Unified Command action level were detected.
- Vacuum truck operations at Tucker Bayou and the outfall ditch continue on 24 hour basis.

- As of 6:00 pm on Saturday, March 30:
 - 112,400 feet of boom deployed
 - 56,162 bbl of product/water recovered from water operations
 - 40,385 bbl of product/water recovered from tank farm
 - 969 people working on-scene (field, command post)

Tank Status as 3:00 am on March 31, 2019

Tank #		Original Volume	Updated Volume	Flow rate	Transfer Method	Status	Notes
80 - 1	Base Oil	48,713 bbls	4,522 bbls			Standby	
80 - 2	Gasoline Blendstock	38,451 bbls	0 bbls			Complete	
80 - 3	Gasoline Blendstock	33,200 bbls	0 bbls			Complete	
80 - 4	Base Oil	34,808 bbls	7,393 bbls			Standby	
80 - 5	Xylenes	35,502 bbls	6,529 bbls			Standby	
80 - 6	Gasoline Blendstock	48,147 bbls	n/a			Standby	
80 - 7	Py Gas	42,680 bbls	Empty			Complete	
80 - 8	Naptha	69,482 bbls	9,072 bbls			Standby	
80 - 9	EMPTY	Empty	Empty			Standby	
80 - 10	Py Gas	14,294 bbls	2,207 bbls			Complete	
80 - 11	Base Oil	51,741 bbls	28,581 bbls	749 bbl / hour		Active	
80 - 12	EMPTY	Empty	Empty			Complete	
80 - 13	Toluene	13,854 bbls	0 bbls			Complete	
80 - 14	Py Gas	13,837 bbls	0 bbls		Inline System	Complete	
80 - 15	Py Gas	9,354 bbls	0 bbls			Complete	

With Regards, Steve



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"Frequently, my thoughts get bored and walk down to my mouth. Often, this is a bad thing."